Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended). A method of ~~treating~~ alleviating the inflammatory response in a subject having an inflammatory condition, comprising administering to the subject a combination of an anti-inflammatory effective amount of methotrexate (MTX) and an anti-inflammatory effective amount of an agonist of the A_3 adenosine receptor (A_3AR agonist), wherein the combination provides a combined anti-inflammatory effect significantly larger than that provided by either MTX or A_3AR agonist used alone.

2 (Original). A method according to Claim 1, wherein MTX is administered to the subject once weekly.

3 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 1, wherein the A_3AR agonist is administered to subjects between once and a few times a day.

4 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 1, wherein the A_3AR agonist is given to the subject orally.

5 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 1, wherein the A_3AR agonist is IB-MECA or Cl-IB-MECA.

6 (Previously Presented). A method according to

Claim 3, wherein a daily dosage of said A_3AR agonist is less than 4 mg.

7 (Original). A method according to Claim 6, wherein a daily dosage of said A_3AR agonist is within the range of about 0.01 to about 2 mg.

8 (Original). A method according to Claim 7, wherein a daily dosage of said A_3AR agonist is within the range of about 0.1 to about 1.5 mg.

9 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 1, wherein the inflammatory condition is an autoimmune disorder.

10 (Currently Amended). A method according to Claim ~~10~~9, wherein said autoimmune disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.

11. (Original) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said A_3AR agonist is IB-MECA.

12 (Currently Amended). ~~A~~ In a method of treating a subject having an inflammatory condition treatable by methotrexate (MTX), comprising administering to the subject an anti-inflammatory amount of~~and treated with~~ MTX, the improvement comprising administering to the subject an anti-inflammatory effective amount of an agonist of the A_3 adenosine receptor (A_3AR agonist), wherein the combination of treatment with MTX and A_3AR agonist provides a combined anti-inflammatory effect significantly larger than that provided by either MTX

or A_3AR agonist used alone.

13 (Currently Amended). ~~A~~ In a method of treating a subject having an inflammatory condition treatable by an agonist of the A_3 adenosine receptor (A_3AR agonist), comprising administering to the subject an anti-inflammatory amount of ~~and indicated for treatment with~~ an A_3AR agonist, the improvement comprising administering to the subject an anti-inflammatory effective amount of methotrexate (MTX), wherein the combination of treatment with MTX and A_3AR agonist provides a combined anti-inflammatory effect significantly larger than that provided by either MTX or A_3AR agonist used alone.

14 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 12, wherein the A_3AR agonist is administered to the subject between once and a few times a day.

15 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 12, wherein the A_3AR agonist is given to the subject orally.

16 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 12, wherein the A_3AR agonist is IB-MECA or Cl-IB-MECA.

17 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 12, wherein a daily dosage of said A_3AR agonist is less than 4 mg.

18 (Original). A method according to Claim 17, wherein a daily dosage of said A_3AR agonist is within the range

of about 0.01 to about 2 mg.

19 (Original). A method according to Claim 18, wherein a daily dosage of said A_3AR agonist is within the range of about 0.1 to about 1.5 mg.

20 (Previously Presented). A method according to Claim 12, wherein the inflammatory condition is an autoimmune disorder.

21 (Original). A method according to Claim 20, wherein said autoimmune disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.

Claims 22-36 (Cancelled).

37 (New). A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said anti-inflammatory condition is one in which treatment with MTX is indicated.

38 (New). A method in accordance with claim 37, wherein said anti-inflammatory condition is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, polymyositis and systemic lupus erythematosus.